

In her long career, Celia Cruz never forgot the country of her birth, evoking Cuba in every performance, but never returning to her homeland. She was a political exile who never returned to Cuba, not even when her father died, denied entry by Fidel Castro, who was still angry at her defection many years before. When Fidel Castro came to power in 1959, Celia was the lead singer of La Sonora Matancera, Cuba's most popular orchestra. The group headlined Havana's world-famous Tropicana nightclub and casino and toured the United States and Central and South America. La Sonora Matancera's fame and frequent tours provided them an escape route, by pretending they were going on another tour, never returning to Cuba.

I am honored to be here today to talk about a music legend. She recorded more than 70 albums, many of them gold and platinum records, and received twelve Grammy nominations, winning for the first time in 1989. Celia was honored with stars and street sections in some of the most well-known avenues of the world. Hollywood gave her a star on the Walk of Fame in 1987. Miami's Calle Ocho was named "Celia Cruz Way" and presented her with a star, an honor she has received in other cities such as San José, Costa Rica and the Plaza Galería in Mexico City, Mexico. She received many awards and distinctions, which include a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Smithsonian Institution, the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic Heritage Awards, and in 1994, she received in the White House the highest honor the United States can bestow on an artist: the National Endowment for the Arts.

Celia Cruz was a musical icon that made Cuban music known beyond our national borders while touching different generations. Lovers of Latin music worldwide embraced her style and boundless energy on the stage as they enjoyed her contagious music and rhythms. For the Cuban American exile community, she was the link between young Cuban Americans and their parents' generation, making Cuba a reality to the younger generation by providing them with the music that entertained their parents and their grandparents.

Celia's fondest dream never became a reality: the opportunity of returning to a free and democratic Cuba. This woman who sang for presidents and heads of state worldwide simply wanted to return one day to the country she had known. She hoped to one day perform again in the land of her birth, and to utter her signature catch phrase "Azucar" to her fellow Cubans. She left us before her dream became a reality, but I say "Azucar" in her honor and in her memory.

Celia, I know that you can hear us this evening. We love you and your music will continue to live in our hearts. We will never forget you. I promise you, Celia, that I will continue to work tirelessly in the U.S. Congress for your dream of a free and democratic Cuba. At that time, the Cuban people will once again be able to enjoy your music filled with rich, Cuban rhythms and Afro beats "en libertad"—in freedom. May you rest in peace, Celia!

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDWARD ATENCIO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize the devoted service that Edward Atencio has provided to the students of his hometown in San Luis, Colorado. Edward is retiring from Centennial High School after having served as Athletic Director for the last 31 years. I commend him for the positive impact that he has had upon so many young individuals in my district.

Edward moved to the San Luis Valley as a small child with his parents and two brothers. He graduated from Adams State College in 1968 with a Bachelor's degree in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation in 1968. He proceeded to obtain a Master's degree from Adams State College four years later and ultimately obtained his Type D administrator certificate at Western State College. Edward's qualifications as Athletic Director also include advanced coursework at the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Northern Colorado.

Edward's first endeavor after joining the Centennial faculty was to build a track facility in order to create a track and field team. Edward's dedication to his students has persisted over the past 35 years, teaching close to 4,600 students and coaching approximately 1,400 student athletes over the course of his career. Dating back to 1978, Edward has received 40 distinguished awards in addition to his nominations for Colorado Prep Coach of the Year and Colorado Teacher of the Year. While Edward is grateful for the personal recognition he has received, he most appreciates the gratitude that he receives from his former students and athletes. Given his invitation to return as a substitute teacher, Edward's involvement with Centennial High School will likely continue even after his formal retirement as Athletic Director position.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Edward's achievements and laudable record of public service before you today. Individuals like Edward embody the dedication and commitment necessary to impart strong values to future generations and allow them the opportunity to succeed. I commend Edward for his long and prolific career and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

SO FAR ACROSS THE SHORES

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I present a writing by Albert Carey Caswell, one of our Capitol historians, dedicated to the United Kingdom—in honor of Tony Blair's address to the joint session of Congress.

To send our fine sons and daughters off to die, off to death and war to there throughout the ages, to share such pain, such grief, such death and gore . . . as together we've endured mothers & fathers, sisters & brothers,

husbands & wives the more . . . who've lost such loves, oh what a burden bore.

For we are such fine friends . . . so very far across the shores as here so lies in time, now etched in history adorned, such a great tribute to our love . . . as has so endured lies such a bond from so very far across the shores, with such unity as woven . . . all throughout time all the more.

For from these two great nations . . . as there would so rise a love and kinship, such that wars would not let despise, that even time and distance . . . still could not deny as a true and fine meeting of the minds . . . as a uniting of brothers and sisters . . . as there bringing such tears to eyes.

For once upon a time . . . from this the great land of kings and queens of so divine came colonies, from far across the seas . . . with such splendid people, with such great dreams, so very fine and with this journey came, a great revolution of the same . . . as a bond dissolved and wars so intervened in time.

And as then, throughout the many years as again . . . such a cherished bond, as so formed here . . . as such a splendid reconciliation, as so appeared and throughout war worlds & evils endured, together as friends, to this world we've stood as one so very clear.

For from this great land has come, such cherished gifts to us among as our father, our true beloved son . . . one George Washington, who to this nation his heart has sung and another such splendid gift . . . that of "hope" by a man named "Bob" . . . whose America's heart has forever rung.

And to this very day, as spreads so far across the way ingrained within our very hearts, lies the United Kingdom . . . for whom we all so pray who have so over the many decades, made our Nation shine in so many ways, into this promised land we see today.

And as the years so pass within our hearts we ask, that this fine bond which we've so made . . . shall to ever last for this our great love & friendship which has so evolved . . . recorded now in history, has forever stood steadfast.

Now as such fine friends, so very far across the shores as so lies such a bond, as one for all and all for one . . . into our love as poured . . . as lies there forever more across the high seas & distant shores, a blessing to two countries . . . within one another this love shall endure.

HONORING THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, Jr.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Detroit Historical Museum on the occasion of the museum's 75th anniversary. The museum, along with Historic Fort Wayne, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum and the Detroit Historical Society, comprise the Detroit Historical Museums and Society, and I commend them on the wonderful job they have done chronicling Detroit's three-hundred year history.

The idea of recording the city's history through museums developed in 1914, when historian Clarence M. Burton donated his extensive collection of historical papers to the Detroit Public Library. The donation of these

papers inspired a meeting of Burton and 19 other local historians in 1921, resulting in the formation of the Detroit Historical Society. In 1927, the Society appointed J. Bell Moran to create the Detroit Historical Museum. In 1928, the museum opened in what is now the Cadillac Tower. In 1942, under the direction of former Detroit News columnist George Stark, the Detroit Historical Society began raising funds to acquire a building to house the museum. In 1945, the Society donated the money that it had raised and its collection of items to the city, leading to a city charter and the subsequent dedication of the museum in 1951, Detroit's 250th anniversary. The 1940's brought the acquisition and opening of Historic Fort Wayne, which the city procured from the Federal Government in 1949. The final component of the Detroit Historical Museums and Society, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, opened in 1961.

The Detroit Historical Museum's collection of artifacts and exhibits is quite extensive. Visitors to the museum can walk Detroit's eighteenth century cobblestone streets and visit an authentic fur trading post part of "The Streets of Old Detroit". They can explore the industry that gave the "Motor City" its name, by walking an actual auto assembly line, part of the "Motor City Exhibition" which opened in 1995. The museum features an authentic pilot house from a Great Lakes freighter. The museum's exhibit, "Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901" highlights the development of industry in Detroit's three hundred year history. Throughout its history, the museum has hosted thousands of students drawn from the entire Detroit region. The Historical Museum's most exciting new exhibit, "Detroit Storyliving," gives students an interactive learning experience and helps excite them about local history through role-playing, music, and team based activities. The Detroit Historical Museum, depicts Detroit as it has changed from a frontier outpost to dominant industrial city.

I thank current Museum Director Dennis Zembala for his dedication and leadership and thank all the staff and volunteers that have made the museum the educational masterpiece it is today. I look forward to its continued educational and historical success and congratulate the Detroit Historical Museum and the Detroit Historical Society on reaching this tremendous milestone and look forward to their continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to a pressing matter in the state, I was unable to make the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: "No" on rollcall vote No. 371, "No" on rollcall vote No. 372, "Yes" on rollcall vote No. 373, "Yes" on rollcall vote No. 374, and "Yes" on rollcall vote No. 375.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JUNE OWENS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I stand before this Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to the life and passing of June Owens, an outstanding citizen of the State of Colorado. The beloved mother of five children passed away at the age of 86, leaving a legacy of hard work, commitment, and a kind, loving spirit we would all be wise to emulate. I am honored to recognize her accomplishments and her life here today.

June was a North Dakota native, growing up in Fargo and attending North Dakota State University. Upon graduation, she moved to Minneapolis and began work at a local newspaper. While in Minnesota she met Arthur Owens, and the two married in 1943. June eventually found her way to Colorado, where she would spend the rest of her adult life.

June was more than a mother to her five children; she was a teacher and a role model as well. Her son Bill, the Governor of my state, acknowledges that his mother provided all of her children with strength and taught them lessons that will be with them for the rest of their lives.

June was an active member of the Colorado community, spending time volunteering for organizations throughout the state. She was known to help the Cancer League, Porter Adventist Hospital, and the Cherry Creek Republican Women's Association. June was always helping those in need, one of the many reasons she was widely acknowledged as a respected member of the Colorado community.

Mr. Speaker, I am saddened by the loss of such a kind and caring individual. It is June's strength, loyalty, and generosity that garnered her respect, and it is for those very qualities that I wish to bring her life to the attention of my colleagues here today. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of June Owens.

TRIBUTE TO EDWIN J. SMITH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I honor the life of a well-respected veterinarian and volunteer from my district. Edwin Smith of Pueblo, Colorado passed away recently, and as his loved ones mourn his passing, I would like to pay tribute to this outstanding individual before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Edwin was born in Minturn, Colorado, grew up in the San Luis Valley, and spent much of his life in New Mexico before returning to Colorado nine years ago. Much of his childhood was spent on the family farm or in church, where he played the clarinet in a family band. After completing his education at Colorado State University, Edwin served his country in the military and then embarked on a career as a veterinarian. He treated his most famous patient in 1950, a two-month old cub who had been rescued from a forest fire in New Mex-

ico. "Smokey Bear" soon became the center of the U.S. Forest Service's campaign to prevent forest fires.

In addition to his work treating large and small animals, Edwin's professional achievements included serving as secretary for the New Mexico Veterinary Exam Board and as veterinarian for the Santa Fe Downs racetrack. Yet he still found time to give back to the community. Edwin was active in the Elks, Masons and Lions Clubs in addition to working with the Boy Scouts and serving as a church deacon. Even in his eighth decade, Edwin volunteered at a Cooperative Care Center, drove for Meals on Wheels, and took part in activities at his church.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the life and memory of Edwin Smith. He was a true community servant who loved to help animals and people alike. To his family, friends, and the many people in the community whose lives he touched, Edwin Smith will be deeply missed. My condolences go out to his family and friends during their time of bereavement.

BROWN-WAITE HONORING NATHAN ROSS FOR SELECTION TO NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM ON TECHNOLOGY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 17-year-old Nathan Ross, who resides in my fifth congressional district of Florida and was selected to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Technology this summer in San Jose, California.

Currently a senior at Hernando High School, Nathan has been building and Networking computers in the basement of his home since the fifth grade. He's known as a bright, talented, hardworking individual and his selection to attend this conference is a testament to his skill and ingenuity.

While attending the conference in San Jose, Nathan will be given the opportunity to expand his knowledge base and work with other technologically-inclined students to create projects and take part in workshops directed by industry leaders, including top executives from firms such as Cisco Systems, Hewlett Packard and Oracle. Participating in the Forum on Technology will provide Nathan with an immeasurable opportunity to broaden his interest in the field and to meet others who share that same interest.

Since its inception in 1992, the National Youth Leadership Forum has given over 50,000 high school and university students the chance to explore the fields of anthropology, archaeology, business, defense, diplomacy, education, engineering, environmental studies, intelligence, law, medicine and technology.

I'm proud to have a talented student like Nathan in my district and am glad to see that an outlet exists for him to put his talent and creativity to use.

Mr. Speaker I ask you to join me in congratulating Nathan Ross for his achievement